

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 151611

45

ORIGIN EB-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66611

DRAFTED BY: EB:NLPZDRAL:MH

APPROVED BY: EB:NLPZDRAL

DIST: EB, ISO ONLY

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R 270001Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 151611

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT LONDON 9815 ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
EC BRUSSELS OECD PARIS 25 JUNE.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 09815

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, UK

SUBJECT: NORTH SEA OIL: MORE ON PETROLEUM BILL

REF: (A) LONDON 9197, (B) LONDON 8915, (C) LONDON 8739

1. IN JUNE 24 CONVERSATION WITH CHANCELLOR HEALEY  
(OTHER SUBJECTS REPORTED SEPARATELY), AMBASSADOR AND  
ECON/COM MIN RAISED PROBLEM OF INVESTOR CONFIDENCE  
RESPECTING NORTH SEA OIL DEVELOPMENT, NOTING THAT  
PETROLEUM AND PIPELINES BILL AS WELL AS PARTICIPATION  
HAS GIVEN RISE TO CONCERN IN OIL COMPANIES AND BANKING  
CIRCLES. DEGREE TO WHICH PETROLEUM BILL AFFORDS  
ENERGY SECSTATE DISCRETIONARY POWERS AND LACKS PRO-  
VISIONS FOR ARBITRATION OR COMPENSATION IS PARTICULAR  
SOURCE OF CONCERN; DRAFT BILL AS IT STANDS WOULD  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 151611

ENABLE SECSTATE TO REQUIRE COMPANIES TO UNDERTAKE  
EXPLORATION OR DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES UNDER PENALTY OF  
FORFEITING LICENSE OR TO IMPOSE PRODUCTION RESTRICTIONS  
WHICH RESULTED IN AN ECONOMIC LOSS, AND IN NEITHR SIT-

UATION IS THERE ADEQUATE LEGISLATIVE PROVISION FOR  
ADMINISTRATIVE OR LEGAL RECOURSE IN CASES OF DISPUTE.

2. HEALEY SAID HE WILL CHECK INTO DRAFT BILL AND KEEP  
CLOSE WATCH ON ITS PROGRESS.

3. EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY PASSED ALONG SUBSTANTIALLY  
SIMILAR COMMENTS TO HAROLD LEVER, PARLIAMENTARY UNDER  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY JOHN SMITH (WHO IS HANDL-  
ING PETROLEUM BILL IN PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE), AND  
PERMANENT SECRETARY SIR JACK RAMOTON AND OTHER SENIOR  
CIVIL SERVANTS IN ENERGY DEPARTMENT.  
RICHARDSON UNQUOTE KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, LEGISLATIVE BILLS, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE151611  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EB:NLPAZDRAL:MH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750223-0878  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 70  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 971106  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** ENRG, UK  
**To:** ROME  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006